

and Latinos. While Black Americans represent 12 percent of the U.S. population, they account for almost half of people living with HIV and half of new infections each year. We can win the fight against HIV/AIDS, but our national strategy must focus on eliminating these disparities.

The U.S. has been at the frontline combating the AIDS pandemic. We have established aggressive and effective programs, notably the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program and the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde U.S. Global Leadership against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Act, known more commonly as PEPFAR. This year, as part of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy the CDC started implementing a 12 city demonstration project to enhance HIV prevention and reduce disparities. In my home State, Chicago is among the 12 cities included in the demonstration project. With over 14,000 AIDS cases, Chicago has one of the Nation's largest AIDS populations and is an appropriate battleground to enhance HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, and access to care.

As we enter a fourth decade of the AIDS epidemic, we remember the 25 million people who have been lost to this disease and renew our commitment to fighting the AIDS epidemic, to eliminating stigma against those with this disease, and to stopping the spread of HIV.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to make these goals a reality.

TRIBUTE TO DR. SUSAN STONE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the astounding achievements of a dedicated Kentuckian. Worthy of recognition for her contributions to the advancement of rural health care, Dr. Susan Stone has devoted much of her life to the practice of nursing and bettering the lives of women, children, and families around the country.

Dr. Stone received her first degree in nursing in 1974 and her bachelor's of science from the State University of New York. She obtained her doctor of nursing from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, as well as her postmasters in nurse midwifery at the very school she is currently president and dean of, the Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing in Hyden, KY.

Educated in many facets of medicine, Dr. Stone has worked as a nurse and a childbirth educator as well as a certified nurse midwife. Then in 2001 she found a way to make an even greater contribution to Kentuckians' health, as she was named president and dean of the Frontier School. Following in the footsteps of the Frontier School's founder, Mary Breckinridge, Dr. Susan Stone continues to seek to improve health care in Kentucky's rural and underserved areas. Expanding the school over the past 5 years to over

1,000 students from across the world, Dr. Stone has made a major impact on its growth. Expected to become the No. 1 education provider of advanced practice nurses in the future, the Frontier School now provides master's as well as doctoral degrees.

About 75 percent of students enrolled in the Frontier School are from rural counties, furthering Dr. Stone's vision of improving health education and the availability of health assistance around the State. And since her involvement with the school, it has recently received three prestigious rankings in U.S. News and World Report.

For her incredible hard work and devotion to medicine, Dr. Susan Stone was named the National Rural Health Association's Distinguished Educator of the Year 2011. Kentucky is fortunate to have driven, focused women like Dr. Susan Stone, as she continues to educate and aid more students who will take their practice of medicine around the world.

Mr. President, the Leslie County News recently published an article highlighting the life and achievements of Dr. Susan Stone. I ask unanimous consent that the full article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Leslie County News, May 12, 2011]
FRONTIER SCHOOL'S PRESIDENT AND DEAN, DR. SUSAN STONE, NAMED NRHA'S DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

With great pride, the Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing announces that Dr. Susan Stone, the school's president and dean, has been named the National Rural Health Association's Distinguished Educator of the Year for 2011. Dr. Stone was honored on May 5 during the 34th Annual Rural Health Conference in Austin, Texas. Dr. Stone's devotion to a career of advancing the education of rural health care providers throughout the United States made her a deserving recipient of this prestigious national award. Dr. Stone, who has led Frontier as its president and dean since 2001, has been instrumental in the growth and success of the Frontier School, a distance-learning graduate school of nursing with a historic campus in Hyden, Kentucky. Today, the school offers nationally rated master's and doctoral degree programs and educates nurses to become nurse-midwives, family nurse practitioners and women's health care nurse practitioners. Enrollment at Frontier has grown from just 200 students in 2006 to a current enrollment of over 1,000 students representing all fifty states and many countries. Stone has maintained a focus on educating nurses who will serve rural and underserved populations which is evidenced by the fact that 75% of students enrolled in 2010 resided in rural counties and/or health professional shortage areas. Thanks to Dr. Stone's commitment and leadership, Frontier graduates are most certainly increasing access to quality healthcare for those that need it most. The school was founded in 1939 by the visionary Mary Breckinridge, who years earlier founded the Frontier Nursing Service in the mountains of southeastern Kentucky to provide healthcare to women, children and families. Frontier is considered the birthplace of nurse-midwifery and family nursing in

America. Dr. Stone's passion for the vision of Mary Breckinridge, who with her nurses traveled on horseback to deliver care and attend births in Appalachia, is evidenced by the school's continued commitment to educate advanced practice nurses to serve in rural and underserved areas. Mary Breckinridge wanted to see her work replicated throughout the nation and world, and Dr. Stone has embraced that vision by educating students from all 50 states and several countries, taking Frontier's philosophy of care across the globe. Like Frontier's founder, Dr. Stone has devoted her career to improving healthcare for women and families. Dr. Stone received her first nursing degree in 1974, later followed by a bachelor's of science in nursing from the State University of New York. Dr. Stone worked as nurse, a certified childbirth educator and later as a certified nurse-midwife in New York, after receiving her post-master's certificate in nurse-midwifery from the Frontier School in 1991. During the '90s, while still practicing, she served on the distance-learning faculty of the Frontier School. Dr. Stone, who earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, has been instrumental in expanding the Frontier School's outreach worldwide, through a unique melding of online learning and real-world clinical experiences. The school recently received three high-profile rankings from US News and World Report: Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing is ranked #13 in Nurse-Midwifery programs, #14 in Nurse Practitioner education programs and #50 in Nursing—among all accredited schools in the country. The work and commitment of Frontier graduates toward meeting rural health care needs could fill an entire book. With Dr. Stone's expert guidance, determination, passion and Frontier school is poised to become the No. 1 education provider of advanced practice nurses to serve rural areas, both domestically and internationally.

TRIBUTE TO ERNEST RAY RUDDER

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished Kentuckian, a self-described "jack of all trades" who has come through for his family, friends and neighbors time and again. Whether it is as a teacher, a law-enforcement officer, a fireman, a father, a grandfather or a great-grandfather, people know they can always rely on Mr. Ernest Ray Rudder.

Mr. Rudder—or, to those who know him, E.R.—has worn many hats throughout his life. Born in Laurel County, KY, in 1947, E.R. attended Bush School and Berea College, then transferred to Cumberland College where he earned his bachelor of science degree in biology and chemistry. During his college years he also married his childhood sweetheart Judy Hacker, and they have been married now for 44 years.

E.R. began work as a teacher, teaching all subjects, including chemistry and biology, in Clay, Jackson and Laurel Counties. He also worked for many years as a school assistant principal and principal. In 2000, E.R. retired from

teaching after more than three decades of service.

But an easy retirement spent in a rocking chair was not for E.R. He was one of the charter members of the Bush Volunteer Fire Department, organized in 1975. While still serving as a school principal, he had worked occasionally as a sworn-in deputy for the Laurel County Sheriff's Office, transporting inmates. Now in retirement, he renewed his commitment to law enforcement. Recently promoted to administrative sergeant, he has worked for the Laurel County Sheriff's Office for the last 2½ years under two sheriffs.

"No matter how small the complaint, it is a legitimate concern for them," E.R. says of the people he works to serve and protect. And luckily for E.R., he has not gotten into any, as he likes to call them, "bugtussles" of the dangerous variety.

E.R. has also worked as a school bus driver, an assistant manager at a restaurant and as a chemist for the London Utility Commission. He is a member of Providence Baptist Church and a deacon there since 1985. When his wife Judy is asked what E.R. does in his spare time, she answers, "He has no spare time."

Kentucky is lucky to have men like Ernest Ray Rudder, who works hard to protect and provide for his family and his community. I am sure his wife Judy, his children, his grandchildren and his great-grandson are very proud.

Mr. President, the Sentinel Echo recently published an article illuminating Mr. Ernest Ray Rudder's life and his career. I ask unanimous consent that the full article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From Sentinel Echo Laurel County, Feb. 21, 2011]

RUDDER HAS LIVED EVERY LIL' BOY'S DREAM (By Sue Minton)

Have you passed someone on the street or in the mall, looked at them in church or school, or just seen them out your car window and wonder where have they been or where are they going, and what is their story?

It's easy to forget that everyone has a story to tell and when we take the time to ask questions and listen, we find that every person has a fascinating story to tell and a unique perspective from which to tell it.

Ernest Ray Rudder's—E.R. to those who know him best—story began May 14, 1947 when he was born, at home, to Birchell and Maxine Rudder, the oldest of three children.

"I was born in a little white house on East 80, grew-up on Tom Cat Trail, and moved back to East 80," he said.

Rudder attended Bush School graduating in 1965 and attended Berea College for 1½ years.

He, along with his new bride transferred to Cumberland College graduating in 1969 with a bachelor of science degree in biology and chemistry.

Rudder and his childhood sweetheart, Judy Hacker, will be married 44 years in May.

"She was only girl I ever dated," he said. "We met in Sunday School class."

Judy said they met when she was in the eighth grade. E.R. said they met before that.

"But I didn't notice you before then," Judy said laughing.

"I noticed you," he said. "With your pig-tails and big brown eyes."

"Her mom, Granny Hacker, was my Sunday School teacher, and Judy was in the class."

After receiving his degree, Rudder began his career as an educator in Clay County, teaching all subjects to seventh and eighth graders at Paces Creek. "This was an experience," he recalled. "I had some famous people in the class, like Gary Gregory, the current Clay County Commonwealth Attorney, for one. And another was the late Cecil Darrell Hooker."

Rudder remembers there being seven seventh graders and 17 eighth graders in the class. "I was 21-years-old and one of the eighth-grade students was 18."

Rudder taught at Paces Creek for half-a-year and the following two years were spent teaching in Jackson County. After which he returned to Laurel County, teaching chemistry and biology for 13 years at Laurel County High School.

"I absolutely loved teaching. I loved the part where you could teach and actually see the students experience the learning part," he said. "And when you could really have fun teaching."

"When you saw them light-up, you knew they 'got-it,'" he added. "And the students learned because they wanted to, not because they had to know it on some test."

Rudder said some of his former students are now doctors, attorneys, teachers and Pentagon officers, and unfortunately some who wear orange jumpsuits.

After 15½ years, Rudder left the classroom for a principal's position at the former Felts Elementary. For 16 years he held principalships at Felts Elementary (four years), assistant principal at Laurel County High School (three years), and Sublimity Elementary (nine years).

Rudder retired in 2000 after 31½ years of teaching and caring for the students of Laurel County.

Rudder recalls the "editorial" he included in the last newsletter he prepared for his staff and students at Sublimity Elementary. "I told them 'Every little boy wants to be a policeman, fireman or teacher and I have been all three. I have been a volunteer fireman for over 30 years and a part-time policeman. So I have succeeded at what all little boys dream of. I threw 30 some years of teaching in there for fun.'"

Rudder was one of the charter members of Bush Volunteer Fire Department that was organized in 1975. Except for a couple of years he has been secretary/treasurer.

And during his principalship at Sublimity Elementary he worked occasionally with the Laurel County Sheriff's Office transporting inmates.

"I was sworn-in as a deputy in 1994," he said.

"And, I once ran for sheriff," he added.

Retirement for Rudder was short lived, lasting less than two weeks.

"I knew when I retired from the school system that I wanted to work with the sheriff's department," he said. "But, I planned on taking some time off. I left school on June 21 and started at the S.O. July 5."

Ruder has worked for the past two sheriffs and the last 2½ years he has worked the roads. He was recently promoted to administrative sergeant, and some of his duties include walk-in reports, accident reports, sending reports to Frankfort and logging, cataloging and transporting evidence.

"I enjoy answering calls, reacting with and helping the people when you can," he said. "I try to help the S.O. have a good image and know that it is serving the people."

When Rudder was asked about taking the administrative position he said he was not dumb enough to think that a 63-year-old man should be out there chasing young punks. "You are inviting trouble," he added. "And I have been lucky, I have not got into any bugtussles, but I have talked several down."

Rudder said there is something new every-day. "A lot of times you will hear the same story but from different people. You never know what or who is going to walk in. No matter how small the complaint, it is a legitimate concern for them."

"People think that everything they see on NCIS or CSI we can do," he added. "I tell them 'if Gil Grissom was here, it is untelling what we could do, but in the real world, we're not able to do all that.'"

"Like teaching, I absolutely love working for the S.O.," he added.

Educating and protecting the citizens of Laurel County was only two of Rudder's jobs.

During his teaching career he also drove a school bus, was assistant manager at Burger Queen and was a chemist for the London Utility Commission.

Rudder drove a school for 13 years, mostly the Marydell route.

"But, my first route was in the Sinking Creek area," he added. "Judy took over my route when I quit and drove for seven years and today Kay Bowling (Rudder's sister) drives the route."

Rudder remembers his Uncle George driving basically the same bus route 50 years ago.

With the jobs Rudder has had and his work schedule today when asked what he does in his spare time, Judy was quick to answer, he has no more spare time."

But Rudder said he doesn't feel like he is pushed. "I would go crazy if I didn't have something to do."

"I like to read history and historical books," he said. "Over Christmas I read George W. Bush's new book 'Decision Points.' Loved it. I'm now reading '15 Stars.' I watch the History Channel and classic westerns, 'Pawn Stars' and 'The Pickers' with a cop show or two thrown in."

"He is also clerk, treasurer and Sunday school director at church," Judy added.

Rudder has been a member of Providence Baptist Church since 1964 and a deacon since 1985.

When asked how he keeps finances from the church, fire department and home straight, he replied laughing "Judy takes care of all personal finances, and I take care of the rest."

Rudder said his biggest regret was not being around much when his daughter, Dawn, was growing up. And his biggest rewards are his grandchildren and Easton, his great-grandson.

"Dawn and Marc have grown up so fast," he said. "And what can you say about your grandchildren and great-grandchild. And the hardest thing I've ever faced was when we lost Susan, our 18-year-old granddaughter."

Rudder describes himself as a "Jack of all trades and a master of none."

INTENT TO OBJECT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I, Senator Grassley, intend to object to the consideration of S. 520, S. 530, S. 871, and S. 1057. These bills would eliminate or modify current incentives for the production and use of domestic, renewable biofuels. I object to their consideration because they would lead to greater dependence on foreign oil, increased prices at the gas pump for